

The Weekly Page

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 5 FEBRUARY 10, 2006

Pages Learn About Legislature

Trains, Trains, Go Away

Today, Senator Lynne Allen introduced Senate bill 6504, which addresses the issue of trains blocking traffic. "The bill is a good one because it reduces the amount of time wasted waiting for a train to pass," said Senator Allen. The bill makes any train operator whose train blocks traffic longer than 10 minutes be fined 100 dollars. It will reduce driving delays, missed appointments, and road rage of the citizens. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill did not pass.



Board game simulates bill process.

On Monday, pages played a board game designed to simulate for them the process by which a bill becomes a law in Washington State. They came to understand that only about ten percent of the bills that are introduced actually become laws. They also experienced the frustration of having a bill "die" in the middle of the process.

Remove WASL From Schools

Today, Senator Richard Bollard introduced Senate bill 6199, which addresses the issue of Education. "The bill is a good one because the WASL is not doing its job in schools," said Senator Bollard. The bill will remove the WASL from schools. The WASL has been costing a lot of money, that could be used in different areas of the school. The WASL has been causing kids who are bad at tests, but have the ability to read, be held back from graduating which is not what the WASL was intended for. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Who Really Teaches Teens To Drive?

Today, Senator Alesha Brooks introduced Senate bill 7164, which addresses the issue of parents teaching their teens how to drive. "The bill is a good one because it provides an opportunity for everyone to learn how to drive with a teacher they feel comfortable with already. Besides that, the parent already does most of the teaching anyways," said Senator Brooks. The bill will make it legal for teens to obtain their license with out ever entering a drivers education program. They will be able to be taught by their parents all they need to know about driving and will only have to pass the driving test given by a drivers ED program. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Re-Writing The WASL

Today, Senator Aparajitha Chalamalachetty introduced Senate bill 9211, which addresses the issue of Graduation Requirements. "The bill is a good one because it forces the students to take the WASL but it doesn't pressure the students of the Washington School System to stress about passing it," said Senator Chalamalachetty. The bill states that all students of the Washington Public School System are required to take the WASL in order to graduate but whether or not they pass the WASL won't effect the students graduation qualifications. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.



Are Cell Phones Dangerous?

Today, Senator Lydia David introduced Senate bill 5232, which addresses the issue of driving with cell phones. "The bill

is a good one because it has the potential to save lives and make our state a safer, better place," said Senator David. This bill will reduce the amount of automobile accidents by administering a fine to those who use a cell phone while driving an automobile. Doing so could save a countless number of lives, prevent unnecessary accidents, and make the streets of our state a safer place. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.



I'm Just A Bill video provides review of bill process

After playing the Bill Process Game, pages viewed the video *I'm Just A Bill*. Many of them stated that they remembered viewing this in elementary school. This short video accurately illustrates all of the steps in the process.



Victims And Lawyers Are Taking Advantage Of Doctors!

Today, Senator Anna Doughty introduced Senate bill 6435, which addresses the issue of health courts. "The bill is a good one because it will help stop the endless suing of healthcare professionals," said Senator Doughty. If this bill becomes law then all health cases will be tried before juries of medical professionals. Unlike sympathetic juries, these professionals will be much more able to discern the truth because they understand the business. Many doctors are quitting the business because they are sued or because their insurance rates are so high. This bill will encourage health professionals to come back to the business and not to fear taking the high risk patients as much. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill did not come up for a vote.

Abortion Law Unconstitutional

Today, Senator Anna Doughty introduced Senate bill 7821, which addresses the issue of abortion. "The bill is a good one

because it strikes down a law that shouldn't even be a law," said Senator Doughty. This bill would outlaw abortion making it illegal. Our constitutional has a law against murder and since abortion is murder, the law should be deleted. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill did not pass.

Rape Complaint Required

Today, Senator Michaela Ecklund introduced Senate bill 6146, which addresses the issue of abortion. "The bill is a good one because it will not only help reduce the number of abortions, but if anyone is raped, it will encourage them to report a complaint, which could help catch sex offenders," said Senator Ecklund. This bill will eliminate abortions to all girls/women that want an abortion, but do not have a complaint of being raped. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Feb. 8, 2006. This bill did not pass.



Is A Student's Desk Their New Bed?

Today, Senator Mikayla Ferrin introduced Senate bill 6239, which addresses the issue of School Hours. "The bill is a good one because it gives Middle and High School students more time to rest and arrive at school with their brains ready to learn, instead of ready to sleep," said Senator Ferrin. This bill will change public Middle and High School morning hours to at least one hour later from the school's original time. Studies have shown that students do better on tests (such as the WASL) if they get enough sleep. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill did not come up for a vote.

Students To Start Learning Foreign Language Early

Today, Representative Cynthia Heckelsmiller introduced House bill 1289, which addresses the issue of students learning foreign languages. "The bill is a good one because it will provide students with a chance to learn languages at an age when their brain is most inclined to verbal learning. This means that fluency in foreign languages will be more common and will not be as easily forgotten. More and more jobs need people who can communicate on an international level, so its important we teach our children earlier," said Representative Heckelsmiller.

The bill will make it so that students will be required to attend a one-hour weekly class on a foreign language. Teachers can be trained under the bill by the State. Every child will have the opportunity to excel at a different dialect, and it will be required for high school graduation. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Feb. 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Pages write bills

Each page wrote a bill designed to solve a problem. Topics for bills included driving age, noise control, fewer school hours for high-schools students, and cell-phone use. They reflect real issues that affect teen-age lives in Washington State. Bills were printed so pages can keep them.



Is The WASL The Correct Answer?

Today, Representative Julia Kelley introduced House bill 1726, which addresses the issue of the WASL. "The bill is a good one because it addresses a concern by most voters in Washington State," said Representative Kelley. The WASL is a standardized test given in fourth, seventh, and tenth grade. In order to graduate high school you need to pass the math, writing, and reading sections to receive your diploma. This bill will address the need that not all students are capable of passing all three sections because some aren't their strengths. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8th, 2006. This bill passed.

Paying A Fee For The WASL

Today, Representative Marissa Macy introduced House bill 2457, which addresses the issue of the WASL. "The bill is a good one because it allows students to take the WASL more than three times without paying a fee," said Representative Macy. This bill lets students to take the WASL however many times without paying a fee. This bill will help the less fortunate students to spend a lot of money on the WASL test. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Smoking Areas

Today, Senator Katie McNeil introduced Senate bill 7457, which addresses the issue of Smoking. "The bill is a good one because

second-hand smoke is a major issue in Washington," said Senator McNeil. This bill will make it so that people cannot smoke unless they are in designated areas. This bill will cut down on second-hand smoke. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 2/8/06. This bill passed.

A Voter Should Be Educated Before Voting

Today, Representative Stephanie Nicholson introduced House bill 2522, which addresses the issue of voter education. "The bill is a good one because it requests voters to have a basic knowledge of the issues before he or she votes upon them," said Representative Nicholson. This new bill asks all voters to pass a short quiz relating to the issues that are being voted upon. There will be one question about each issue, and the voter must answer 51% of the questions correctly to pass. If not, they are able to retake the test until they do pass. A person may vote whether they pass or not, but a failure to pass signifies to the voter that they need to learn more about the issues. If something is preventing a person from completing this process, they shall not be prevented from voting. Staff at the voting site will provide them with a waiver to sign, and then they vote. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Feb. 8, 2006. This bill passed.



Pro Choice; Pro Abortion

Today, Representative Jessica Pacheco introduced House bill 1005, which addresses the issue of Abortion. "The bill is a good one because it will continue to promote the legality of Abortion and promote women's pro-choice rights," said Representative Pacheco. Women will be able to enforce pro-choice rights, however depending on that individual's background and beliefs. People need to especially realize the situations that abortions may help, such as rape, and the passing of malignant diseases either through birth, or genetically. Most of all, and so importantly, this bill will provide women's rights, and the effect of pro-choice will be immense. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Pages lobby their own bills

Pages practiced lobbying techniques as they encouraged their colleagues to support their bills in committee hearings. They created posters and completed media releases for this newsletter.



WASL Alternatives

Today, Representative Perry Piper introduced House bill 1111, which addresses the issue of WASL requirements. "The bill is a good one because it will let students receive a different kind of diploma to graduate from high school if they don't pass the WASL," said Representative Perry Piper. Students will be required to pass three of the four WASL sections to receive a different kind of diploma in order to graduate on time. Students who pass all four sections will of course receive the normal diploma and not have to participate in any retakes. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.



A Cure For Doctors?

Today, Representative Brian Stacy introduced House bill 2460, which addresses the issue of Frivolous Lawsuits and Malpractice Insurance costs in Washington State. "The bill is a good one because by protecting doctors from frivolous lawsuits, we can lower the amount they spend on malpractice insurance and encourage them to practice in our State," said Representative Stacy. Basically, this bill declares lawsuits directed towards doctors, that are found to be frivolous, null and void. A frivolous lawsuit is one that attempts to charge a doctor with malpractice when the doctor acted within the boundaries set by the Hippocratic Oath. Once this takes effect, the cost to practice as a docter in Washington will be dramatically lowered because doctors can work without fear of a large lawsuit and lower their malpractice insurance

costs. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Feb. 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Is A Nuclear Holocaust Coming?

Today, Representative Joseph Anderson introduced House bill 3773, which addresses the issue of marriage. "The bill is a good one because It will keep parents together," said Representative Anderson. This bill is designed to get rid of marriage tax and so keep poor parents together. This will also keep families together, eliminating needless suffering among children. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill did not pass.

Be Well

Today, Representative Jennifer Curley introduced House bill 1699, which addresses the issue of prevention of second hand smoking. "The bill is a good one because it will help prevent cancer and second hand smoke, and families will be healthier," said Representative Curley. This bill will apply across America, you will not be allowed to smoke within twenty five feet of a public area. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

New Bill Has More Ways To Save You Money!

Today, Representative Stephen Foster introduced House bill 3999, which addresses the issue of taxes. "The bill is a good one because it is the first time in a long time that the government has found a way to save you money," said Representative Foster. This bill will make it so you are only charged for the government services that you actually use. You will apply for and pay for the services that you need before the fiscal year. If you end up needing a service you didn't pay for at the beginning of the year you will be charged a fine then given the service you are paying for. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill did not pass.



Committees debate bills, vote

Pages participated in simulated committee hearings on Wednesday. They read their bills and 'committee' members, governed by the rules of parliamentary procedure, debated the pros and

cons of the bills. When pages voted on bills, some ideas were passed on to an imagined legislative body, while others did not pass and "died" in committee. In this newsletter, we have reported which bills passed and which did not pass.

No More!!! It's A Bummer!!!

Today, Senator Laura Fudge introduced Senate bill 7777, which addresses the issue of WASL Testing. "The bill is a good one because it gives every child the opportunity to get into a great college and it doesn't prevent some certain individuals from not being able to achieve their goals..," said Senator Laura Fudge. The WASL is a test that many kids are not able to pass. Now that kids have to pass it to graduate from college many aren't being allowed to follow their dreams. It is a waste of money and a waste of children's educations. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.



It's A Girl...Or Is It?

Today, Senator Sierra Gernhart introduced Senate bill 5775, which addresses the issue of abortion. "The bill is a good one because it ensures that all people have the opportunity to live by making doctor-assisted abortions illegal," said Senator Gernhart. Abortions kill babies that have not been born yet. Mothers make the choice of whether or not they want the baby to come into the world, though this choice is not theirs since it's not their life that would end. Children that have been aborted did not even have the chance to make a difference in the world due to their mother's choice. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

How "Close" Is Too "Close"?

Today, Senator Ashley Gilpin introduced Senate bill 6954, which addresses the issue of transportation. "The bill is a good one because it will provide more room for a safe and enjoyable ride for students," said Senator Ashley Gilpin. The seats on a school bus are way too close and in some cases there will be 3 to a seat, there is no room to get down the aisle because everyone has there backpacks in the aisle, and everyone has there knees in the back of the person in the front of them So to take action the seats on the bus should be separated at least 2 feet apart, there should be baskets for your belongings under seats, and the aisles

should be about 2.5 feet wide.. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 2-8-06. This bill did not pass.

Election Fraud Solved

Today, Representative Garrett Grigas introduced House bill 1001, which addresses the issue of election recounts. "The bill is a good one because it saves the government time and money, and it would limit fraud in the elections," said Representative Grigas. This bill would limit each opponent to one recount that he or she would pay for. This bill would also outlaw hand recounts, and only allow machine recounts. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

The End Is Near!!!

Today, Representative Lukas Scherer introduced House bill 3519, which addresses the issue of safety. "The bill is a good one because it will save lives," said Representative Scherer. Under aged and inexperienced kids are buying guns and getting hurt. You should not be aloud to buy a gun if you are under sixteen or you do not have a license or have not taken hunter safety. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Feb 8, 2006. This bill did not come up for a vote.



Jail Drunk Referees

Today, Representative Phoenix Van Wagoner introduced House bill 1492, which addresses the issue of sports referees. "The bill is a good one because it will prevent bad refereeing," said Representative Van Wagoner. This bill will prevent bad refereeing by making any referee who is caught under the influence of alcohol lose their license and have to undergo treatment. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Home Schooling Proposed For FASD Students

Today, Representative Beth Witt introduced House bill 1515, which addresses the issue of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. "The bill is a good one because it helps kids in public schools who have FASD," said Representative Witt. Home schooling is

proven to help people with FASD, because it helps them to concentrate and because they don't get picked on like they do in public school. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.



DDD Bill Likely To Pass

Today, Representative Nicholas Goodman introduced House bill 2581, which addresses the issue of Department of Developmental Disabilities Support Regulations. "The bill is a good one because it will help support many people in need of social services," said Representative Goodman. This bill will make it possible for people with high functioning Autism to receive benefits from DDD. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

New Driver's Permit Proposed

Today, Representative Sarah Hagen introduced House bill 2128, which addresses the issue of Driver's Permits. "The bill is a good one because fifteen year olds will want to get their permits sooner, which will get the Department of Licensing more money," said Representative Sarah Hagen. Kids will now be able to get their permits as soon as they turn fifteen, without being enrolled in driving school. Kids will still need to take driving classes in order to get their licenses though. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Budget debate stirs emotions

Using actual state budget figures, pages debated how to balance the state's operating budget. Their task was to make up a \$3 billion deficit. "Is it always this hard?" asked a page as the debate intensified.

Logging Illegal Without Permit

Today, Representative Kayla Hunt introduced House bill 1010, which addresses the issue of logging. "The bill is a good one because logging destroys the environment and isn't good for the economy," said Representative Kayla Hunt. If this bill passes, citizens will not be allowed to cut down trees unless they have a permit to do so. If they break this law, they will be fined \$1,000. This allows for animals to live in their natural habitats and helps to promote alternatives like recycling and reusing wood. The bill

was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8th, 2006. This bill passed.

Keeping T.V. Under Control!

Today, Senator Jacqueline Vaughn introduced Senate bill 6673, which addresses the issue of television advertisements. "The bill is a good one because it puts an end to the bad kind of advertisements, that surround us all," said Senator Jacqueline Vaughn. Bill number 6673 was enforced, to stop all smoking, drinking, and drug advertisements. It will become effective, 40 days after signature by the Governor. If a television company is caught still advertising the use of drugs, smoking, or alcohol, the company will be sued, or shut down...whichever comes first. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8th, 2006. This bill did not pass.



Jessica Perschon-Rhodes & Jackie Parent of WSECU

Parent, Perschon-Rhodes, Murphy, York, Walston Speak

Jackie Parent and Jessica Perschon-Rhodes of the Washington School Employees Credit Union, State Treasurer Mike Murphy, and House Interns Kirsten York and Bobby Walston joined the pages during their classes on Thursday. They told students about their present positions and shared information about how the Legislature affects what they do. Pages were able to interact with these guests.



State Treasurer Mike Murphy met with pages in his office

Second-Hand Smoke to be Eliminated?

Today, Representative Alana Lopez introduced House bill 3333, which addresses the issue of second hand smoke to minors. "The bill is a good one because it may reduce the amount

of smoke related illnesses in minors," said Representative Lopez. This bill will prevent smokers from smoking in public or private buildings when minors are present. This includes private houses, because smokers are taking away the Natural Rights of the minors they smoke around. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8th, 2006. This bill passed.



How To Control The Noise At Night

Today, Senator Naomi Smith introduced Senate bill 5678, which addresses the issue of noise. "The bill is a good one because there will be less noise and people will not be complaining and there will be less late night party that will happen because there won't be many places they will be able to happen," said Senator Smith. This bill is about noise control and how there are way too many people that are having their music that is way to loud. So people do not have to complain but there is nothing being done to stop it so that is why this bill will be helpful. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8th, 2006. This bill did not pass.



Better Not Get Caught Outside Late!

Today, Representative Jordan Rehwaldt introduced House bill 1234, which addresses the issue of Curfews. "The bill is a good one because it will cut down on our society's night time crime which is a huge dent in the number of criminal acts that take place," said Representative Rehwaldt. This bill will force people to stay inside between the times of 12 am and 4am. People who decide to break this law and get caught by the patrolling policemen, will spend a night in jail and will gat a \$350 fine. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill did not pass.

Pages celebrate, mingle at Thursday pizza party

Thursday afternoon, pages took a break from their regular duties and socialized with each other while eating pizza. This was an opportunity for House and Senate pages to mingle at the page Appreciation Pizza Party.



Say 'Bye' To Your Cell Phone Drivin' Days!

Today, Senator Jacque Sampson introduced Senate bill 8361, which addresses the issue of driving while on a cellular devices. "The bill is a good one because it will reduce the number of deaths relating to reckless driving and protect unsuspecting drivers from distracted ones," said Senator Jacque Sampson. This bill is designed to protect drivers on cell phones from themselves and other drivers doing the same. It will also teach our youth the importance of watching the road while you drive. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Drunk Drivers Stay Off The Road!

Today, Senator Lydia Shepard introduced Senate bill 5075, which addresses the issue of driving while intoxicated. "The bill is a good one because in time it will keep most all of the drunks off the road and therefore keep us all safe and at very little risk," said Senator Shepard. This bill will put into effect that any driver caught under the influence of alcohol will result in their license being revoked for a period of 6 months. Any second offenders will result in permanent loss. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Hours Of School

Today, Senator Alex Staley introduced Senate bill 7998, which addresses the issue of hours of schooling each day and days of break. "The bill is a good one because you will have more time to learn each day and get more break," said Senator Alex Staley. This bill increases the number of hours you have to learn each day. Those extra hours each day will be added onto school breaks. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

WASL Testing Turns Into Making Portfolios

Today, Senator Fuxia Stankus introduced Senate bill 6011, which addresses the issue of WASL testing. "The bill is a good one because students will not have to pass the WASL anymore in order to graduate from high school," said Senator Stankus. There will be no more WASL testing because we have made a new requirement for students. Students will now have to make a portfolio about themselves which has their goals and accomplishments in it. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill did not come up for a vote.

Schools To Start Sooner!

Today, Senator Rachel Turner introduced Senate bill 5555, which addresses the issue of School Time. "The bill is a good one because Students will be able to concentrate more and will do better in school," said Senator Turner. This bill will require all schools in Washington State to start at 10am and end at 4pm. This will allow students to concentrate more and not get kidnapped. Students will not be coming home to an empty house. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Feb. 8th, 2006. This bill did not come up for a vote.



Jeopardy creates hit

On Friday, pages tested their knowledge of the Legislative process in a spirited game of *Jeopardy*. Winning teams were awarded certificates and brightly colored stickers that they wore proudly for the rest of the day.

Licensing Violators Feeling Effect In Their Pocketbooks

Today, Representative Alex Williams introduced House bill 5692, which addresses the issue of unlicensed vehicles. "The bill is a good one because it will help clean up unkempt cars on the street and in yards," said Representative Alex Williams. This bill heightens the fine on traffic tickets issued for unlicensed cars. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

The Dangers Of Biking

Today, Representative Mary Frances Brennan introduced House bill 3327, which addresses the issue of the dangers of riding without a bicycle helmet. "The bill is a good one because most of the fatal or near fatal bicycle accidents could be averted by wearing a helmet," said Representative Brennan. This bill requires the uses of helmets when riding bicycles or similar modes of transportation. It will be enforced by a 75 dollar fine. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Lower Gas Prices!

Today, Senator Benjamin Harrison introduced Senate bill 6969, which addresses the issue of gasoline prices. "The bill is a good one because everyone in the state will have lower gas prices," said Senator Benjamin Harrison. This bill will reduce the price of gasoline by imposing a statewide standard for gas prices. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.



Six-Month Rule-A Legitimate Law? Or A Ridiculous Rule?

Today, Senator Erin Hobbs introduced Senate bill 7291, which addresses the issue of Teen driving laws. "The bill is a good one because it will increase the number of carpools, therefore reducing pollution," said Senator Erin Hobbs. This bill will change the number of months a teen must have their license before driving non-family members from six months to two. Most teens don't follow the 6-month rule anyway, and this will give them more motivation to follow the new 2-month rule. Therefore, creating a safer and less congested driving environment. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill did not pass.

Less Graduation Requirements

Today, Senator Kelsey Gurtiza introduced Senate bill 5001, which addresses the issue of community service as a graduation requirement. "The bill is a good one because it takes off some pressure that high school seniors have," said Senator Kelsey Gurtiza. Seniors in high school should not have to be required to do ninety hours of community service in order to graduate high school.. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill did not come up for a vote.

Page School on the web

The Page School has its own web site. You can find us at: www1.leg.wa.gov/WorkingwithLeg/
PageSchool/. This newsletter has been posted there.

Assisted Suicide Bill Makes Debut In Senate

Today, Senator Nathan Liechty introduced Senate bill 5647, which addresses the issue of Assisted Suicide. "The bill is a good one because it isn't forcing any one thing upon anyone, it is just giving them more choices and options," said Senator Nathan Liechty. This bill would make it legal for terminally ill patients get lethal doses of drugs from doctors in order to end their life.. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.



Page School teachers

Page School's 2006 teachers are (*l-r*): Paul Prociv, BJ Lutz, and Vicky Whinnery.

Government Spending Cut

Today, Representative Matan Smith introduced House bill 1001, which addresses the issue of redirecting of government building spending. "The bill is a good one because it allows money to be directed more for the people," said Representative Matan Smith. The bill will cut down government spending on unnecessary building. It will direct spending towards kids' activities and such. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Senator Matthews Stands Against Steroids

Today, Senator John Matthews introduced Senate bill 5123, which addresses the issue of steroids and performance enhancing drugs in high school, college, and professional athletics. "The bill is a good one because steroid use is rapidly increasing in both high school and college athletes because of the added pressure,"

said Senator Matthews. The proposed bill will impose weekly testing for steroids on all high school, college, and professional athletic teams. High school and college first offenders will receive a one year ban from their sport with a career ban coming with the second offense. Professional athletes will receive a fine along with their punishments. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Feb. 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Stand Against Secondhand Smoke

Today, Senator Celeste McDonald introduced Senate bill 7324, which addresses the issue of second hand smoke in public areas. "The bill is a good one because nonsmokers do not have to walk through cigarette smoke while in the city, or elsewhere.," said Senator McDonald. This bill will cause smokers to only be able to smoke in designated areas, away from the rest of the public. This way, people can stay away from smoke. Smokers in non-designated areas will be fined \$45. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Stop Your Child From Smoking!

Today, Representative Carolyn Anderson introduced House bill 3788, which addresses the issue of the use of tobacco products by minors. "The bill is a good one because it protects children from the serious diseases tobacco products have been proven to cause," said Representative Anderson. The bill will protect minors from the bad effects of tobacco products by making it a misdemeanor for anyone under the age of 18 to use them. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.



Historical pages

Our legislature has employed pages for many years. This photo is of pages who served in past years. The first female page served in 1937.

WASL Reform

Today, Representative Michela Laverty introduced House bill 2666, which addresses the issue of WASL graduation requirements. "The bill is a good one because it enhances the number of students graduating from high school and going on to college to pursue a career," said Representative Laverty. This bill will require a C average or above to graduate from college. To raise a grade students will either go to summer school or go back to 12th grade. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill did not pass.

Stop Teen Smoking

Today, Senator Eileen Pollet introduced Senate bill 6543, which addresses the issue of teen smoking. "The bill is a good one because it will lower the number of young adults who become addicted to cigarettes," said Senator Pollet. This bill makes it illegal for people under the age of 18 to smoke. It will help to lower the number of people who have tobacco related health problems. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Feb. 8, 2006. This bill passed.



House Intern Kirsten T. York talks with pages

Help Save Lives Now!!!

Today, Representative Hafsah Prohim introduced House bill 1000, which addresses the issue of smoking and drinking. "The bill is a good one because of child safety and health," said Representative Prohim. This bill will help save people's lives. It will bring a better society. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Feb. 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Keep Our Children Safe.

Today, Representative Chelsea Woods introduced House bill 2468, which addresses the issue of sexual abuse. "The bill is a good one because it is important to keep our children and homes safe," said Representative Chelsea Woods. Anyone who sexually abuses a child and is fully convicted of it then they will be sent to prison for a minimum of 20 years. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Eliminate Second-Hand Smoke In Your Community!

Today, Senator Alix Hamilton introduced House bill 6464, which addresses the issue of smoking in public areas. "The bill is a good one because it will reduce the general public's exposure to second-hand smoke," said Senator Hamilton. This bill will solve second-hand smoke problems by limiting the inhalation of smoke to smokers. Therefore, non-smokers will not have to suffer from the decisions of smokers. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Feb. 8, 2006. This bill passed.

Skating OK'd on Capitol Campus

Today, Senator Jesse Mulliken introduced Senate bill 5432, which addresses the issue of skating on the Capitol Campus. "The bill is a good one because this is a healthy recreational activity," said Senator Mulliken. If we let people skate at the Capitol, it will decrease the number of people at skate parks, so fewer people will get hurt due to crowded conditions. What's more, this will bring more different people to see the Capitol Campus. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2006. This bill passed.